

# Non-operative Ankle Injury Episode

## Executive Summary

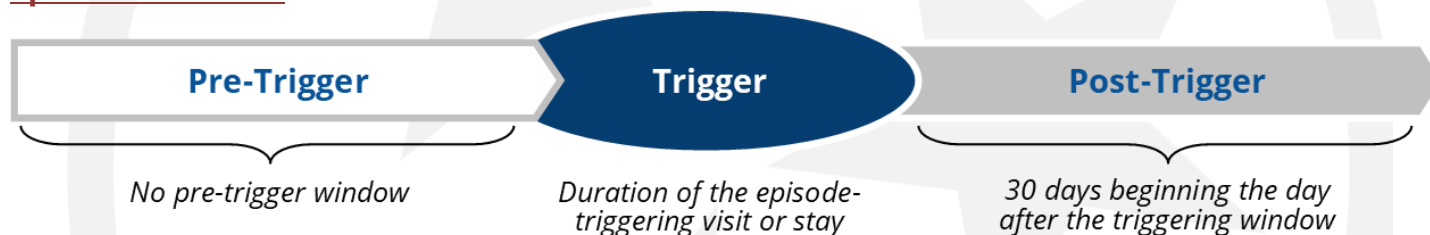
### Episode Design

- **Trigger:** visit for non-operative ankle injury
- **Quarterback type:** professional (provider who makes the diagnosis)
- **Care included:** all related care including imaging and testing, medical procedures, and medications

### Sources of Value

- Appropriate use of diagnostic imaging and testing (e.g., x-ray, MRI)
- Appropriate site of care and referrals
- Appropriate and evidence-based treatment decisions and use of DME (e.g., braces, crutches)
- Appropriate level of immobilization
- Appropriate non-prescription and prescription medications as pain management (e.g., reduction in opioids where not evidence-based)
- Reduction in potential for complications
- Resolution of symptoms and restoration of functionality

### Episode Duration



### Quality Metrics

#### Tied to Gain-Sharing

- Difference in average morphine equivalent dose (MED) per day (lower rate is better)

#### Informational Only

- Average MED/day during the pre-trigger opioid window
- Average MED/day during the episode opioid window
- X-ray imaging for sprain/strain episodes
- Incremental imaging
- ED visit after initial diagnosis
- Opioid and benzodiazepine prescriptions

### Making Fair Comparisons

#### Exclusions

- Business exclusions: DCS custody, inconsistent enrollment, third-party liability, dual eligibility, FQHC/RHC, no PAP ID, incomplete episodes, overlapping episodes
- Clinical exclusions: different care pathway (e.g., inpatient or observation setting during trigger, operative treatment during episode window, two or more concurrent injuries), multi-injury, overlaps
- Patient exclusions: age (greater than 64 years old), death, left against medical advice
- High-cost outlier: episodes with risk-adjusted spend greater than three standard deviations above the average risk-adjusted episode spend for valid episodes are excluded.

**Risk adjustment** is used to ensure appropriate comparisons between patients.

To learn more about the episode's design, please reference the Detailed Business Requirements (DBR) and Configuration File on our website at <https://www.tn.gov/tenncare/health-care-innovation/episodes-of-care/searchable-episodes-table.html>.